

Statement of Cattle Mortality.

READ—

Letter No. Per. 22 of 33-34, dated 21st October 1933, from the Director of Agriculture in Mysore, forwarding the statement of cattle mortality in the State for the year ending 30th June 1933, with his review thereon.

(Director's review and statements are printed as annexures).

ORDER NO. D. 2070-71—STCS. 16-33, DATED BANGALORE,
THE 4TH NOVEMBER 1933.

Recorded.

2. As compared with the previous year, the total cattle mortality in the State shows a decrease of about 5 per cent, the mortality under contagious diseases increased by about 2·7 per cent while that under non-contagious diseases decreased by 7 per cent.

3. Mortality under rinderpest showed a further decline during the year. The disease accounted for 1,065 deaths, which is the lowest recorded during the past decade. It is hoped that the measures now being carried out to control and stamp out outbreaks of this disease will ultimately result in its complete eradication. Twenty-two thousand, eight hundred and fifty-six inoculations were performed during the year against this disease. Mortality under blackquarter and anthrax similarly showed a further decline during the year. Eighty-six thousand, seven hundred and twenty-five and 2,676 inoculations were performed against these diseases. Foot and mouth disease accounted for 1,611 deaths during the year.

4. The Director of Agriculture observes that the cattle mortality returns now compiled are by no means accurate since returns of mortality which should be received from every village and for every month of the year have been actually received only to the extent of 72·1 per cent of the total number due. This is very unsatisfactory and the Revenue Commissioner is requested to issue strict instructions to the Amildars to pay particular attention to this important matter and see that the returns due from each village are regularly received from the Village Patels.

S. ABDUL WAJID,
Secretary to Government,
Development Department.

ANNEXURES.

REVIEW OF THE CATTLE MORTALITY RETURNS FOR THE
HALF-YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 1933.

The total mortality during the year was less by 3,782 than that of the previous year, though there has been a slight increase under contagious diseases by 430 over that of the previous year.

The mortality under rinderpest is only 1,065 and is the lowest ever recorded, and is less than that of the previous year by 136. This disease, the deadly scourge of cattle diseases in India, has contributed only 6·6 per cent of the total mortality under contagious diseases for the year.

Shimoga District has taken the highest toll under this disease. Some of the villages in Honnali, Shikarpur and Channagiri Taluks were badly affected. Kadur District comes next to Shimoga.

The S. S. inoculation campaign carried out systematically since the last eight years in remote parts of every taluk in the Province, has created immune zones, with the result that the free spread of infection from one corner to another has been considerably lessened by these effective barriers.

Goat Virus alone inoculation, a device to lessen the process and minimise the cost of inoculation, was very successfully tried in one of the infected villages in Shimoga District.

With the extensive adoption of this method, it is hoped, that the economic loss that is sustained by the raiyats from this disease will be brought down to a negligible figure. Twenty-two thousand, eight hundred and fifty-six inoculations were conducted against this disease.

The mortality under anthrax and blackquarter has gone down by 13 per cent and 9 per cent respectively, in comparison with that of last year. Much of the success in preventing the mortality under these diseases is due to the raiyats readily responding to the call of the Department in getting their live-stock protected against these diseases soon after the first signs of the outbreak are noticed. Two thousand, eight hundred and seventy-six and 86,725 inoculations were conducted against these diseases, respectively.

Foot and mouth was very severe in parts of Hassan, Mysore and Chitaldrug Districts, and the mortality under this head was much greater during the current year than in the previous year. Many of these outbreaks could not be attended to by the Veterinary Inspectors personally, for want of time.

It may be mentioned here that the mortality returns compiled for the State cannot be assumed to disclose actual facts unless the percentage returns received in Taluk Offices goes up to at least 95 for the State. The percentage of returns received during the year for the whole State is 72.1 as against 71.5 of the previous year. Better results could not be achieved, in spite of timely intimation to Amildars whenever there was a tendency of decline in the percentage of returns received; notwithstanding the observation of the Government year after year in this behalf.

The returns received in the following taluks have not shown any satisfactory improvement within the last six years:—

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|------------|---------------|
| Bangalore | Arkalgud |
| Hoskote | Saklespur |
| Magadi | Holé-Narsipur |
| Mulbagal | Chitaldrug |
| Bowringpet | Hosdurga |
| Nanjangud | Shimoga |
| Hassan | |

The present state of affairs may not improve unless the Amildars adhere to the standing orders of Government and review the returns received in the taluk, monthly, with the consolidated register and insist on getting these returns by the defaulting Patels. Besides, the scrutiny of these returns by the Amildars during their tours and insistence on Revenue Inspectors to note if the villages they have visited during their itineration have sent up these returns regularly, would bring about much needed improvement.

A. K. VEGNANARAYANA AIYAR,
For Director of Agriculture (on leave).